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SRI K. GOVINDA RAO :—" May I know the reasons for which the Municipal Council had been pressing for his transfer? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" He was transferred because he was nearing his term of three years."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" Will the Hon. Minister give us an assurance that wherever there are undesirable Commissioners according to the Municipal Councils, the Government will be prepared to take immediate action? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is a general question."

SRI K. GOVINDA RAO :—" Sir, my previous question has not been answered at all. My question was, what were the reasons for the Municipal Council to pass an unanimous resolution that the Commissioner should be transferred? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" I want notice, Sir."

Representations from the pavement dwellers.

* 398 *Q.*—SRI A. RATHINAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Co-operation be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received recently any representation from the pavement dwellers in the city ; and

(*b*) whether the Government have taken a census of the total number of homeless Harijans using the pavements and platforms in the City?

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The answer is in the negative."

SRI A. RATHINAM :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that the grounds allotted for pavement dwellers in Korukkupetta are being occupied by the Corporation servants and will the Government constitute a committee to look into the matter? "

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" I am not aware, Sir. But as suggested by the hon. Member we will certainly make enquiries."

Amenities to the pavement dwellers.

* 399 *Q.*—SRI S. VEMIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Co-operation be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Government have got statistics of the number of pavement dwellers in the City of Madras at present ; and

(*b*) the amenities provided for them by the Government?

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) The Government have not so far provided amenities to the pavement dwellers in the City of Madras. But the

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Corporation of Madras is doing as much as it can in this direction. It has built shelters called "Homes for the Homeless" in 5 places and has established two new colonies with all amenities like roads, lighting, water-supply, drainage, etc., where plots are provided to the pavement dwellers for putting up their own huts. Besides, the Corporation is running a work house for the able bodied beggars, a special home, for deceased beggars, a poor house for the physically weak and an orphanage for the vagrant children."

Sri S. VEMIAH :—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, will the Government consider the desirability of taking statistics about these pavement dwellers?"

The Hon. Sri D. SANJIVAYYA :—" Sir, with regard to the statistics relating to the pavement dwellers, we have no figures in the Census Abstract. But they will have to be collected from the National Register of Citizens by examining all the sites in the Madras City which will involve much labour not commensurate with the public interests served."

Sri T. LAKSHMINARAYANA REDDI :—" In view of the fact that Madras is a big city and that foreigners who visit the city form the opinion that it is fertile for their propaganda and as it is also a disgrace to our democracy, will the Government try to see that the pavement dwellers are given some relief?"

The Hon. Sri D. SANJIVAYYA :—" There again it is only a question of finding sufficient finances, Sir."

Sri G. RAMA RAO :—" Are the Government aware that there are hundreds of destitute children whom the Government are bound to take of?"

The Hon. Sri D. SANJIVAYYA :—" I have already said, Sir, that there is a home for the vagrant children which has been established by the Corporation of Madras."

Sri S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Are these pavement dwellers permanent citizens of Madras or are they floating population from the suburbs of Madras, and if they have come from outside the City of Madras, are the Government taking any steps to transport them back to their own places?"

The Hon. Sri D. SANJIVAYYA :—" Some of them are permanent and some of them belong to the floating category. Still it will not be possible to take effective steps to check the infiltration."

Sri K. VINAYAKAM :—" Out of the total population of about 14 lakhs in the City of Madras, not less than one lakh of people are living on pavements. The facilities afforded by the Corporation of Madras are sufficient to house only 500 people. Have the Government any proposal at present to house these pavement dwellers who are almost a nuisance to those who have to walk on these pavements?"

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THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" It is not correct to say that very few people are accommodated. In fact 250 families could be accommodated in these 'Homes for the Homeless' and about 1,000 families in the two new colonies."

SRI V. V. RAMASAMI :—" Are the Government aware of the proposal of the Mayor of the Corporation of Madras to form a public trust to tackle the problem of beggars and destitutes in the City of Madras and if so, do the Government propose to make any grants to the proposed Trust? " 9 a.m.

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" Of course the Government are aware of the fact but I cannot inform or promise the hon. Member whether the Government would be in a position to give any grant or subsidy to the Trust."

SRI C. RAJAM RAMASAMI :—" Is it not a fact that the hon. Member Sri K. Vinayakam in spite of his being a City Father had not pressed this beggar problem frequently in the Corporation Council? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" What has that to do with the present question? " (Laughter.)

SRI B. K. NALLASWAMI :—" Do the Government envisage any decrease in the number of pavement dwellers in the City after the formation of the Andhra Province? "

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" We shall wait and see, Sir."

SRI N. MAHALINGAM :—" May I point out that most of these pavement dwellers are honest workers and that it would be an insult to human dignity to dub them as nuisance? "

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Is the scheme of the Hon. Minister for tackling the problem of pavement dwellers in the City a part of the scheme for the whole State? "

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" What 'scheme' Sir! "

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI :—" Sir, is it not a fact that the Cabinet set up a sub-committee to study this question and if so what are their recommendations? "

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" Sir, the Housing Committee decided that housing the poor and the destitute, construction of beggar homes for beggars and hutments for pavement dwellers should be provided by local authorities, of course aided by the State and run as a social service."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Let me at the outset say something by way of personal explanation, Sir. Of course it is true that I happen to be a member of the Council of the Corporation of Madras, and in my humble capacity I have been personally pressing in the Council that this beggar problem should be properly solved by the Corporation authorities. My friend Mr. C. Rajam Ramasami presumably is not aware of the proceedings of the Council. I humbly request him to pay visits to the Council.

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"Sir, is it not a fact that this problem had been mooted before the Government of Madras time and again and that the Government had not taken sufficient care to solve this problem?"

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—"I have already stated that this problem should be tackled by local bodies like the Corporation and Municipalities. Of course they may expect some loan from the Government."

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI :—"Will it be possible for the Hon. Minister to say what steps the Government have taken to carry out the recommendations of the sub-committee?"

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—"I am afraid I require notice for the present question, Sir."

Appointment of the Secretary to the Rajahmundry Co-operative Central Bank.

* 400 *Q.*—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Co-operation be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Rajahmundry Co-operative Central Bank at its last general body meeting unanimously resolved to continue their experienced Secretary in service;

(*b*) whether the Registrar of Co-operative Societies has thereafter been insisting on the removal of the said Secretary and appointment of one of his own nominees to the place;

(*c*) if so, the reasons for the Registrar's vetoing the decision of the general body;

(*d*) whether the Registrar of Co-operative Societies has been insisting on the Board of Management of the Rajahmundry Co-operative Central Bank accepting his advice in all matters of internal administration informing them that non-acceptance of his advice would result in withdrawal of credit facilities by the Reserve Bank to the Rajahmundry Co-operative Central Bank; and

(*e*) whether the Government received instructions from the Reserve Bank of India that credit facilities of Reserve Bank would be available only to such Co-operative Central Banks as accepted and adopt the advice of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies in matters of internal administration and appointment of officers; and if so whether Government will please place a copy of such instructions on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—"(*a*) Yes, Sir.

"(*b*) It is a fact that the Registrar of Co-operative Societies has been insisting on the removal of the Secretary of the Bank but it is not true that he wanted to appoint one of his own nominees to that post.

"(*c*) Under by-law No. 5 of the special by-laws relating to the service conditions of the employees of the Bank, no employee can be retained in service if he has attained the age of 55 years. However, there is provision in this by-law to the